of vehicle and the area covered. Strengthening the administrative units of Delhi Police is a continous on-going process. Proposals in this regard are examined, as and when received, on merits.

Fall in production of Oil from Andhra Pradesh Oil Fields

1582. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in the production of oil from the oil fields of Andhra Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present production as compared to those of the last two years; and

(d) the efforts being made to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As against the production of 0.04 MMT in 1992-93, the production in 1993-94 was 0.17 MMT and the production in 1994-95 was 0.27 MMT.

(c) The production in the first quarter of the current year was 0.036 MMT.

(d) Efforts are being made to overcome the constraints in the transportation of crude oil so that the production from the offshore field could be increased.

Modernisation of Refineries

1583. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: (a) whether Government are aware that the existing refineries need large funds from private sector for modernisation in order to meet product quality requirement and pollution standards; and

(b) if so, whether Government are in favour of deregulation of oil and gas industry to promote competition and efficiency, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The requirement of funds for modernisation of refineries to meet product quality and pollution standards, is largely met by the concerned PSUs from their own resources. However, a Strategic Planning Group on Restructuring the National Oil Industry with members comprising of top management from public and private sector and leading experts have been formed.

Policy to encourage setting up of food processing industries in Karnataka

1584. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a policy to encourage setting up of food processing industries in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Although no State specific policy for promoting food processing industries has been formulated by the Central Government, the Government have taken various steps to promote/encourage development of food processing industries in the country including Karnataka. These steps inter alia include declaration of most food processing industries as high priority, delicensing of food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages, sugar and those items reserved for small scale sector, promoting domestic/foreign NRI investments, providing fiscal reliefs, etc. The Government is also operating various Plan Schemes for promoting food processing industries in the country.

Committee Report on Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd.

1585. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 6328 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th May, 1995 and state: